

**Mid-Pacific Region  
Sacramento, CA**

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For Release On: March 16, 2010

## **Bureau of Reclamation Issues CVP Water Supply Update**

This informational release serves as the official notice required under the terms of various CVP water contracts. The forecast reflects hydrologic conditions as they existed as of March 1, 2010, and the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) March Water Year 2010 Runoff Forecast, and supplemented with additional information collected through the month.

The Bureau of Reclamation is announcing increases to water supplies for the following Central Valley Project (CVP) water contractors in the Central Valley of California. For agricultural water service contractors north of the Delta, the water supply forecast increases from 5 percent to 50 percent, and the water supply forecast for Municipal and Industrial (M&I) water service contractors north of the Delta increases from 55 percent to 75 percent. For agricultural water service contractors south of the Delta, the water supply forecast increases from 5 percent to 25 percent, while the water supply forecast for M&I users south of the Delta increases from 55 percent to 75 percent of historic use. Further, the Class 2 water supply forecast for Friant Division contractors increases from 0 to 10 percent; the Class 1 water supply forecast for Friant Division contractors remains at 100 percent.

Since the initial water supply announcement based on the February 1, 2010, runoff forecast, California has experienced a continued improvement in overall water supply conditions as wet weather patterns progressed throughout February. The increases announced today result from additional precipitation, improved snowpack, and improved storage at Shasta Reservoir and the federal share of San Luis Reservoir. Improved inflow to Millerton Lake has led to the increase in Friant Division supplies. As shown in the following table, the allocations have improved from the February 26 allocation:

<b>Bureau of Reclamation – Mid-Pacific Region Water Supply Update for March 2010</b>									
	<b>Water Year Type and Percentage of Average Runoff</b>	<b>North of Delta (percentages of contracted water supply)</b>				<b>South of Delta (percentages of contracted water supply)</b>			
		<b>AG</b>	<b>M&amp;I</b>	<b>R*</b>	<b>WR**</b>	<b>AG</b>	<b>M&amp;I</b>	<b>R*</b>	<b>WR**</b>
<b>Conservative Forecast (90%)</b>	<b>Critically Dry 63% of Average</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Median Forecast (50%)</b>	<b>Dry 76% of Average</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>5-Yr Average Allocation</b>		<b>76</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

AG = Agriculture M&I = Municipal and Industrial R = Refuges WR = Water Rights

\*The allocation shown in the table for wildlife refuges applies to Level 2 water supplies only. A full water supply (including both Level 2 and incremental Level 4 water) to the wildlife refuges would be about 555,500 acre-feet. Level 2 is 422,251 acre-feet, which accounts for approximately three-fourths of a full refuge supply.

\*\* The allocation for water rights contractors is based upon pre-CVP held water rights, and wildlife refuges are based upon pre-established Shasta inflow criteria.

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Although the updated water supply forecasts are very good news for most CVP water users, South-of-Delta agricultural water service contractors still face serious water supply challenges, in part as a result of early year dry conditions and operational constraints imposed on the CVP by water quality and fish species concerns. Reclamation is working diligently and in close partnership with other Federal and State agencies, South-of-Delta contractors, and other stakeholders to secure additional water. Under this Department of the Interior initiative, it is expected that a range of an additional 150,000 to 200,000 acre-feet of water will be secured, or 8-10 percent of west side South-of-Delta agricultural water service contract quantities. These amounts represent new supplies for 2010 not previously available to the west side of the San Joaquin Valley.

In partnership with our contractors, Reclamation is also actively continuing various initiatives designed to make more effective use of existing water supplies including: working in partnership with the State of California through the Water Transfer Program to facilitate a more expeditious process for transferring water from willing sellers north of the Delta to water-short areas south of the Delta; utilizing increased authority to make excess capacity in CVP facilities available to convey and store non-Project water supplies; encouraging better utilization of Project water supplies through water conservation grant programs; working with Project contractors to make use of supplemental groundwater or non-Project water supplies during critical months, thereby freeing up Project supplies for use elsewhere in the system; and maximizing flexibilities to transfer and exchange water among Reclamation's contractors.

Water supply updates will be made monthly or more often as necessary based on new information throughout the precipitation season. As water supply updates are made, they will be posted on the Mid-Pacific Region's website at <http://www.usbr.gov/mp/>. For questions or additional information, please contact the Region's Public Affairs Office at 916-978-5100 (TTY 916-978-5608) or e-mail [mppublicaffairs@usbr.gov](mailto:mppublicaffairs@usbr.gov).

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